



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 (TTY 711)

FAX 703-248-5146

publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, April 20, 2007



CONTACT:

Nicole Gobbo

703-248-5210 (TTY 711)

ngobbo@fallschurchva.gov

Hyun June Lee

703-248-5101 (TTY 711)

hlee@fallschurchva.gov

Falls Church City Tree Commission Selects Scarlet Oak as 2007 Tree of the Year

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The Falls Church City Tree Commission has selected the Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*) as the 2007 Tree of the Year. The Scarlet Oak is most known for its vibrant fall color. The glossy bright green leaves turn a deep scarlet red in the fall.

The Tree Commission has nominated a Tree of the Year every year since 1993. The Tree of the Year is a native Virginia tree that is no longer prolific in the City and merits reintroduction and promotion. The tree must also be available for purchase and planting. During the year, City and volunteer efforts focus on planting that type of species as street trees and in parks. Private landowners are encouraged to consider this tree for planting, if conditions are favorable.

The Scarlet Oak is a native eastern species commonly found on dry upland slopes and ridges. It can also tolerate dry, poorly drained, acidic and compacted soils. The open, rounded crown and dark grey, irregular, ridged bark make for attractive features. This tree should not be planted under power lines as it grows to 60 feet in height.

Scarlet Oaks will be planted throughout the spring as street trees, in conjunction with Neighborhood Tree Program planting events, and also on the grounds of City parks and schools as Arbor Day trees.

###

www.fallschurchva.gov

Note: Photo attached of Falls Church City Urban Forestry Crew Leader David Jantzen planting a Scarlet Oak sapling in Frady Park. Photo Credit: City of Falls Church.

Harry E. Wells Building • 300 Park Avenue • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • 703-248-5001

www.fallschurchva.gov